

working with the Appropriations Committee, understanding more of what goes to put together state government. I am going to support this bringing of this bill to the floor for that very reason, that it is a new area that I think we ought to be venturing into, and that is the whole area of sports and athletics in our high schools, in our colleges, how they interrelate with the whole educational process, if they are doing it right, if there are some improprieties, and I guess the only way I have learned in the past to get into the process is to have an issue before you. Now it may be a silly one in some people's mind and to a degree I think I would never support the particular proposal of Senator Chambers as a bill but I do support using it as a simple vehicle to delve into, to open up, to look into the whole issue of athletics and our educational system in this state and whether they interrelate properly or improperly, and if we need to make some changes, and the only way you do that is opening that door, looking in, and starting to pull out the bodies, see how it functions. This bill is simply a vehicle to do it and for that reason I am going to give a vote to put it on the floor, not with any intention as I suggested to say this bill is a reasonable solution to anything. The bill more than anything raises reasonable questions. So I urge you to do it if for no other reason than that.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Rod Johnson.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Mr. President, members of the body, I am probably as close to Nebraska football as probably more than anyone else because I live in a family that has had the past five years a player on the Nebraska football team, my brother Brad Johnson, who was a walk-on at the University, and then later on received a scholarship to play with the University, and was unfortunately behind one of Nebraska's probably greatest players, Dave Rimington, but Brad did get a chance to play and did get a chance to participate with the University football program, and I have listened carefully through Senator Chambers remarks and I have to beg to differ that some of the things that he raises did not happen with Brad. The plush apartments and stereos and cars simply weren't there. The high paying jobs that he talked about I don't think Brad ever got involved in. Now I don't know, of course, he was a second string center so maybe he wasn't part of the deals that were made but unfortunately I would have to beg to differ that this is probably not the right thing to do. Certainly there are things that we need to look at. I respect Senator Chambers. I worked with him the whole year and I know he is serious about this matter but I guess in my own instance I am serious, too. Brad is now with the Boston Breakers in the USFL and he is being paid what he is to do and that is to play football,